

## **FFA Chapter Reaches into Community to Improve Way of Life for Citizens**

The **Declo FFA Chapter** focuses on community service as a major part of their Chapter activities each year. One of the annual service projects is **collection of food, clothing and toys for the Christmas Council** who in turn distributes the items to needy families throughout the Mini-Cassia area.

The FFA members organize contests, donate prizes, setup drop off locations and encourage involvement from all students at Declo High School. The goal for the 2002 Christmas season was to collect over 1000 items. The goal was accomplished and many families enjoyed a great Christmas due to the efforts of Declo FFA members.

Twice each year the Declo FFA Chapter **conducts a blood drawing in cooperation with the American Red Cross**. FFA members canvas the Declo area, setting up calling teams who remind residents of the drawing dates, times and importance. The FFA classroom is converted into a donation center and FFA members volunteer in the reception area, assist nurses with those donating blood and provide cookies and juice to those who participate in the blood drive. FFA members who are of eligible age also become first-time donors for the Red Cross.

Shane Clayson, FFA Advisor says, *“Declo FFA members believe in giving something back to the community. We enjoy the opportunity to be actively involved in helping the people in our community enjoy a better way of life and believe that it teaches some valuable lessons to the members of our FFA Chapter.”*

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If you need further information about the FFA in Idaho, please contact  
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